

**PARISH OF ASCENSION,  
STATE OF LOUISIANA  
CERTAIN FINANCIAL AND STATISTICAL DATA**

**Population of the Parish**

The population growth trend of the Parish of Ascension is as follows:

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>PARISH POPULATION</b>	<b>STATE POPULATION</b>
1950	22,387	2,683,516
1960	27,927	3,257,022
1970	37,086	3,644,637
1980	50,068	4,205,900
1990	58,214	4,219,973
1991	59,009	4,251,560
1992	61,828	4,287,195
1993	62,109	4,295,477
1994	64,128	4,315,085
1995	66,336	4,339,352
1996	68,106	4,350,579
1997	70,328	4,351,769
1998	71,825	4,368,967

Sources: US Census; Louisiana Tech University, January, 1999.

**Population of Municipalities**

The population growth trends of the municipalities in the Parish of Ascension are as follows:

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>DONALDSONVILLE</b>	<b>GONZALES</b>	<b>SORRENTO</b>
1960	6,082	3,252	1,151
1970	7,367	4,512	1,182
1980	7,901	7,287	1,197
1990	7,949	7,003	1,119
1991	7,971	7,119	1,124
1992	8,128	7,208	1,128
1993	8,284	7,827	1,192
1994	8,284	8,205	1,192
1995	8,334	8,312	1,192
1996	8,342	8,444	1,192
1997	8,606	8,565	1,329
1998	8,606	8,565	1,370

Sources: US Census; Louisiana Tech University, January, 1999.

## **ECONOMIC INDICATORS**

### **Personal Income**

The Bureau of Economic Analysis of the US Department of Commerce publishes personal income data. The most recent revised per capita income figures for the Parish, Louisiana and the United States are as follows:

<b>YEAR</b>	<b>PARISH</b>	<b>LOUISIANA</b>	<b>UNITED STATES</b>
1990	\$14,509	\$14,281	\$18,666
1991	\$15,557	\$15,079	\$19,201
1992	\$16,461	\$15,817	\$20,137
1993	\$17,885	\$17,133	\$21,220
1994	\$18,947	\$18,086	\$22,056
1995	\$19,792	\$18,826	\$23,059
1996	\$20,778	\$19,609	\$24,164
1997	\$21,480	\$20,458	\$25,288

Source: US Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis, October, 1998.

### **Retail Sales**

According to the *Survey of Buying Power*, estimated retail sales by category in Ascension Parish were as follows:

*(In Thousands)*

<b>Year</b>	<b>Total Retail Sales</b>	<b>Food</b>	<b>Eat/Drink</b>	<b>Gen Mdse</b>	<b>Furn/Appl</b>	<b>Auto</b>
1991	\$387,967	\$93,980	\$23,295	\$48,211	\$10,704	\$120,391
1992	\$420,468	\$89,596	\$25,977	\$59,647	\$14,454	\$123,822
1993	\$442,431	\$88,422	\$27,076	\$63,795	\$14,881	\$137,455
1994	\$579,410	\$138,145	\$47,151	\$74,153	\$16,748	\$181,202
1995	\$656,794	\$147,241	\$52,374	\$77,655	\$20,033	\$215,887
1996	\$738,237	\$162,184	\$61,188	\$81,560	\$22,604	\$252,001
1997	\$791,048	\$158,584	\$55,682	\$82,205	\$20,678	\$260,125

(Note: The retail sales statistics in the 1995 edition of the *Survey of Buying Power*, which lists data for 1994, are based on newly published benchmark data from the 1992 Census of Retail Trade (CRT). Prior to this year, retail figures reported in the Survey were based on data from the 1987 Census [unlike the general Census, the CRT is conducted in five year intervals]. Whenever such an adjustment is made, trends in lines that fall across benchmark year are often skewed, a fact readers should keep in mind when comparing retail sales figures for 1994 and thereafter to those from prior years.

Source: Sales and Marketing Management, Survey of Buying Power, August, 1998.

## SALES TAXES

### Sales Taxes Levied in the Parish

The following is a summary, by area, of sales and use tax rates levied within the Parish of Ascension as of 12/31/98.

Entity/Area	Parish-Wide Tax	Municipal Tax	Total Local Tax	State Tax	Total Sales Tax
ASCENSION PARISH	4.5		4.5	4	8.5
DONALDSONVILLE	2.5	2	4.5	4	8.5
GONZALES	2.5	1.5	4	4	8
SORRENTO	2.5	2	4.5	4	8.5

Source: Louisiana Department of Revenue and Taxation, Sales Tax Division, January, 1999.

### Taxable Sales

Sales and use taxes are levied by various entities at various rates throughout the Parish. The following figures represent the tax base of a broad-based sales and use tax levied on a parishwide basis.

<i>(In Thousands)</i>					
Month	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998
January	\$72,493	\$91,245	\$87,966	\$91,759	\$107,862
February	\$68,198	\$71,816	\$85,405	\$84,344	\$103,548
March	\$91,510	\$83,098	\$95,219	\$91,633	\$137,707
April	\$76,309	\$76,749	\$90,401	\$99,868	\$122,048
May	\$74,636	\$77,202	\$90,509	\$93,303	\$115,067
June	\$81,743	\$86,111	\$93,242	\$111,089	\$154,697
July	\$72,717	\$81,431	\$107,387	\$101,733	\$131,274
August	\$77,425	\$88,782	\$92,328	\$120,210	\$128,233
September	\$84,246	\$93,537	\$90,981	\$110,100	\$133,678
October	\$70,922	\$88,352	\$98,528	\$119,256	\$136,365
November	\$86,287	\$78,027	\$90,290	\$100,969	\$135,539
December	\$92,546	\$103,052	\$102,782	\$144,241	\$154,212
Annual Total	\$949,031	\$1,019,401	\$1,125,038	\$1,268,504	\$1,560,232

Source: Oakland Econometrics.

## **PROPERTY TAXES**

### **Assessed Valuation of the Parish**

The recent trend in the assessed valuation of property throughout the Parish of Ascension is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Taxable Assessed Valuation</b>	<b>Homestead Exemptions</b>	<b>Total Assessed Valuation</b>
1990	\$223,180,710	\$54,280,800	\$277,461,510
1991	\$233,337,760	\$55,694,840	\$289,032,600
1992	\$249,272,120	\$57,464,290	\$306,736,410
1993	\$259,395,950	\$59,630,740	\$319,026,690
1994	\$282,264,640	\$63,258,740	\$345,523,380
1995	\$283,738,730	\$66,763,000	\$350,501,730
1996	\$306,951,380	\$80,975,830	\$387,927,210
1997	\$332,063,940	\$86,597,170	\$418,661,110
1998	\$348,146,060	\$92,286,510	\$440,432,570

Source: Ascension Parish Assessor's Office.

A breakdown of the assessed valuation of the Parish by classification of property is as follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Real Estate</b>	<b>Personal Property</b>	<b>Public Service</b>
1990	\$98,006,400	\$146,453,130	\$33,001,980
1991	\$100,170,290	\$156,224,170	\$32,638,140
1992	\$102,989,460	\$169,094,290	\$34,652,760
1993	\$105,678,980	\$176,598,270	\$36,749,440
1994	\$96,477,320	\$212,416,500	\$36,629,560
1995	\$102,189,320	\$207,026,130	\$41,286,280
1996	\$126,204,180	\$218,193,060	\$43,529,970
1997	\$134,917,070	\$239,127,010	\$44,617,030
1998	\$146,518,690	\$247,954,100	\$45,959,780

### **Millage Rates**

The recent trend in the aggregate ad valorem tax rates (in mills) levied on a parishwide basis by various entities within the boundaries of the Parish of Ascension follows:

<b>Year</b>	<b>Millage</b>
1990	52.77
1991	53.08
1992	53.21
1993	53.21
1994	54.71
1995	73.71
1996	75.34
1997	79.38
1998	77.48

Sources: Louisiana Tax Commission and Ascension Parish Assessor's Office.

## Leading Taxpayers

The ten largest property taxpayers of the Parish of Ascension in 1998 and their assessed valuation are as follows:

<b>TAXPAYER</b>	<b>ASSESSED VALUATION</b>
1. BASF WYANDOTTE	\$53,990,530
2. BORDEN	\$32,029,680
3. SHELL	\$27,965,840
4. C.F.INDUSTRIES,INC.	\$15,100,560
5. VULCAN MATERIALS	\$13,898,060
6. UNIROYAL CHEMICALS	\$11,786,620
7. ORMET	\$10,196,870
8. RUBICON / ICI	\$10,664,480
9. E. ASC. TELEPHONE	\$8,394,930
10. TRIAD CHEMICAL	\$8,045,100

Source: Ascension Parish Assessor's Office.

## SCHOOL STATISTICS

### Enrollment

The recent trends in public school registration, average daily membership and average daily attendance in the Ascension Parish school system are as follows:

<b>REGISTRATION</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>	<b>1996-97</b>	<b>1997-98</b>
AVERAGE DAILY ATTENDANCE	12,888	13,204	13,694	13,557
AVERAGE DAILY MEMBERSHIP	13,732	14,121	14,683	14,471
PUBLIC	14,133	14,210	14,656	14,595

"Average Daily Attendance" reflects the average daily attendance of member public school students during the session. "Average Daily Membership" reflects the average daily count of public school students registered during the session. "Public" reflects the count of public school students registered on the first day of the school year, including pre-kindergarten.

### Expenditures

Expenditure trends for the Ascension Parish School Board are as follows:

<b>EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>1994-95</b>	<b>1995-96</b>	<b>1996-97</b>	<b>1997-98</b>
MEAN TEACHER SALARY	\$26,443	\$28,896	\$29,560	\$31,182
CURRENT EXPEN PER STUDENT	\$4,549	\$4,689	\$5,226	\$5,249
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$8,789,767	\$12,471,485	\$1,872,256	\$11,553,182
DEBT SERVICE	\$2,526,041	\$2,946,660	\$8,380,892	\$4,495,644
CURRENT EXPENDITURES	\$62,473,073	\$66,435,335	\$72,164,129	\$76,223,568

Source: Louisiana Department of Education.